

Cheikh Ibrahima Fall, Vice President and Corporate Secretary, and Shailendra J. Anjaria, Secretary, International Monetary Fund.

Statement on Signing the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, FY 2000

September 29, 1999

Today I signed H.R. 2490, "Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, FY 2000", a bill that contains several important improvements in family planning and child care. This bipartisan bill will give people who work for the Federal Government access to more affordable child care and flexibility in family planning. It will require health plans participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) that provide prescription drug coverage to provide prescription contraceptive coverage as well, while providing an exception for plans that object to this requirement on religious grounds. The bill also gives Government agencies new flexibility that will allow them to make child care more affordable for lower-income Federal employees. While this bill is not perfect, it does show that we can make progress when we work in a bipartisan fashion.

NOTE: H.R. 2490, approved September 29, was assigned Public Law No. 106-58.

Statement on Signing the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2000

September 29, 1999

I have signed into law today H.R. 2490, the "Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2000," which provides \$13.7 billion in discretionary budget authority for programs in the Department of the Treasury, the United States Postal Service, the General Services Administration, the Office of Personnel Management, the Executive Office of the President, and several smaller agencies. I commend the Congress for producing a bipartisan bill that allows us to continue the IRS reform effort and the national youth anti-drug media campaign and

to fund important law enforcement efforts and other programs.

The bill provides \$12.4 billion for the Department of the Treasury, including \$132 million for violent crime reduction programs. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is funded at \$8.2 billion. I believe that these funds will strengthen the IRS's ability to provide timely and accurate data for American taxpayers. The bill also includes \$144 million for the Earned Income Tax Credit compliance initiative and \$250 million for Year 2000 conversion requirements for IRS computer systems. Law enforcement bureaus within the Department of the Treasury are funded at \$3.4 billion. I am pleased that the Congress has fully funded my request for the expansion of the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative.

The bill provides \$185 million for the Office of National Drug Control Policy's (ONDCP) national youth anti-drug media campaign. This money will enable ONDCP's national media campaign to continue its effort to change youth attitudes about drug use and its consequences. The campaign is a model public-private partnership, exposing 90 percent of all 9- to 17-year-olds to anti-drug messages at least four times a week.

I am pleased that the enrolled bill requires health plans participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program that provide prescription drug coverage to provide prescription contraceptive coverage as well. I am also pleased that the enrolled bill allows agencies to use appropriated funds to support day care centers at Federal facilities. This provision should improve the affordability of child care for lower-income Federal employees.

Several provisions in the Act purport to condition my authority or that of certain officers to use funds appropriated by the Act on the approval of congressional committees. My Administration will interpret such provisions to require notification only, since any other interpretation would contradict the Supreme Court's ruling in *INS v. Chadha*.

Section 622 of the Treasury/General Government Appropriations Act prohibits the use of appropriations to pay the salary of any employee who interferes with certain communications between Federal employees and

Members of Congress. I do not interpret this provision to detract from my constitutional authority and that of my appointed heads of departments to supervise and control the operations and communications of the executive branch, including the control of privileged and national security information.

I urge the Congress to complete action on the remaining FY 2000 appropriations bills as quickly as possible and send them to me in an acceptable form.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 29, 1999.

NOTE: H.R. 2490, approved September 29, was assigned Public Law No. 106–58.

Statement on Signing the Extension of the Airport Improvement Program Act

September 29, 1999

I am pleased to sign S. 1637, the “Extension of the Airport Improvement Program Act,” releasing the final \$290 million of FY99 funds for the Federal Aviation Administration’s Airport Improvement Program (AIP). These funds will help communities across the country finance critical projects to enhance airport safety and capacity and reduce noise. Some \$71 million of the AIP funds will go to help lessen the growing problem of airport-related noise, by insulating nearby schools and residential neighborhoods and other noise mitigation efforts. These and other efforts by the Federal Government will mean that, by next year, only 600,000 Americans will be adversely affected by aircraft noise, compared to the 2.3 million Americans who faced that problem in 1995. A significant portion of the funds released today will go to help smaller airports, which have fewer financial resources and are more dependent on Federal assistance to meet their capital requirements than are larger airports.

NOTE: S. 1637, approved September 29, was assigned Public Law No. 106–59.

Memorandum on Funding for the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization

September 29, 1999

Presidential Determination No. 99–42

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Use of \$18.1 Million in Unallocated Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs Funds for a U.S. Contribution to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO)

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2364(a)(1) (the “Act”), I hereby determine that it is important to the security interests of the United States to furnish up to \$18.1 million in funds made available under the heading “Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs” in title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999, as enacted in Public Law 105–277, for assistance for KEDO without regard to any provision of law within the scope of section 614(a)(1). I hereby authorize the furnishing of this assistance.

You are hereby authorized and directed to transmit this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

Proclamation 7227—100th Anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars

September 29, 1999

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As a free Nation, we must always remember that our achievements in peace have been built on the sacrifices of our veterans in war. We owe a profound debt to brave Americans like the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States who knew their duty and did it well—even at the